

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY JULY 29, 2015 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**MAYOR:** Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.

**COUNCILORS:** Joey Herrera  
David L. Romero  
Vincent Howell  
Tonita Gurule-Giroń

**ALSO PRESENT:** Elmer J. Martinez – City Manager  
Maire Lopez – Recorder  
Dave Romero – City Attorney  
Juan Montano – Sergeant at Arms

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for a moment of silence in appreciation for the rain and the good weather and added that it made the community a better place to live in.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

City Manager Martinez recommended moving Business Items 1, 2 and 3 to follow Business Item #7.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve the agenda with the recommended changes of moving Business Items 1, 2 & 3 to follow Business Item #7. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Tonita Gurule-Giron	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
Joey Herrera	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Wayne Sonchar spoke briefly regarding the EDC and advised that he had been involved with the EDC since its inception and was very disappointed in the decision to disapprove the fund increase. Mr. Sonchar added that without the funding, it would cut down on deliverables and informed that there has been hard work from private businesses as well as many volunteers working over 2,000 hours on behalf of the community and the EDC. Mr. Sonchar stated that business development takes time and asked the Governing Body to reconsider the funding increase for the EDC.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Director Ann Marie Gallegos presented the finance report ending June 30, 2015 and advised that the General Fund collected ninety six percent in revenues and added there was a slight dip in March and hoped that revenues would increase through the year.

Finance Director Gallegos informed that General Fund expenditures were at eighty seven percent and ended up with a positive cash balance and advised that reserve and emergency funds were set in place and advised that the needs of the community are being met while setting aside funding is taking place as well.

City Manager Elmer Martinez advised that he was pleased with the overall hard work of Department Heads, Managers and City staff regarding the cautious spending on their part, which reflected on the eighty seven percent of expenditures and spoke of the importance of maintaining a good cash balance.



Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked if the ninety seven percent was the result of the actual GRT.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the ninety seven percent was the result of the GRT.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the Recreation Department revenue was at ninety five percent and the expenditures came in at seventy eight percent, and added that the Recreation Department had been maintaining the budget with the help of a Community Service Director.

City Manager Martinez advised that Human Resource Department is working closely with the Recreation Department Staff regarding staffing as well as working with a Community Service Director on keeping control of expenditures. City Manager Martinez informed that they were continuing to work with the architect on the agreement for the Recreation Center which would result in an increase in expenditures due to operations.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked if there was a new Recreation Department Director.

City Manager Martinez reminded Council of the Re-Organization that took place when Phillip Ortiz was appointed Community Services Director and thanked Mr. Ortiz for his hard work in overseeing the Community Services Departments.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the Enterprise Funds revenue came in at one hundred percent and stated that the departments had reviewed their expenditures and added that they have been very careful regarding expenses.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that expenditures for the Enterprise Funds were at ninety three percent and added that expenses are being looked at regarding capital outlay projects such as Bradner Dam and the Landfill Closure and advised that the Finance Department was working closely and assisting the Utilities Department on those projects.

City Manager Martinez commended the Utilities Department Staff for meeting their projections on revenue and added that he was pleased with being at ninety

three percent of expenditures considering the expenses on several significant emergency situations, water breaks and the overtime expenses involved and thanked the departments under the Enterprise Funds for their work in terms of being conservative with their expenditures while still meeting the needs of the community.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had questions regarding the status of FTE's and amount of vacancies in the Utilities Department.

City Manager Martinez advised that the Human Resource Department was working collaboratively with the Utilities Department, as well as with other departments regarding staffing in terms of being conservative, as recommendations come to open new positions or to re-advertise for positions.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked for the total amount of FTEs at the Utilities Department.

City Manager Martinez advised Council Gurule-Giroń that he did not have that information available at the present time but added that they would review the Enterprise Fund Budget by the department for the information regarding the FTEs.

Brief Discussion took place regarding the re-organization and several vacancies in the Utilities Department.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. recommended that Utilities Director Garcia provide information regarding the delay of the Bradner Project.

Utilities Director Ken Garcia advised that Bradner Dam is ready for construction but explained that any time that there is an increase in storage especially with Bradner Reservoir, the City of Las Vegas has had to litigate with the Storrie Lake Water Users Association in the past and added that the City is litigating with them at the present time.

Utilities Director Garcia advised that there is a permit and protest process which is allowed by the State Engineer, open for anyone to file their legal argument



against it and advised that the Storrie Lake Water Users Association have chosen to do so.

Utilities Director Garcia informed that the City has weighed the options of using Storrie Lake for storage which is 2300 acre feet which is the same footage as Bradner will have and advised that it has a number of benefits and disadvantages as well.

Utilities Director Garcia explained that after weighing those options Bradner has stayed on the City's ICIP priority list and stated that he was confident that in the end the City would prevail and will have the storage needed to meet the community's needs through drought and added that it was a very important project.

Utilities Director Garcia advised that legally the City has to go through the timely process and could possibly go to Federal Court but added that the City needs to stand by its future direction to increase storage and if the priority project is not followed through then that would compromise the future for future generations in the community.

Utilities Director Garcia thanked Mayor Ortiz, Jr. for obtaining funding for the project and added that the City thought they could work with the Storrie Lake Water Users Association to mitigate impacts that Bradner would have on Storrie Lake and advised that the Storrie Lake Water Users Association is not allowing the City to hydro logically mitigate the impacts.

Utilities Director Garcia advised that the Storrie Lake Water Users Association's argument was that the City would need to have a permit in order to put water in Bradner Dam, only in the case of Storrie Lake or the canal being full and stated that he felt that was unreasonable.

Utilities Director Garcia expressed how important it was to continue the process of Bradner Dam and in the meantime the city is working on other projects to mitigate water issues.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. wanted to inform that the City had worked very well with the Storrie Lake Water Users Association in the past but this discussion was not to downgrade the Association.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. informed that there were several legal complications involved regarding ownership of Storrie Lake, who was able to authorize the agreement transaction to take place and added that the City did not have any guarantees which were critical in order for the City to invest 12 million dollars and advised the City has a 30 day water supply and added that it was a very critical situation.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had concerns regarding any Councilors meeting with Storrie Lake Water Users Association and Acequias Association individually.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. advised that he did not know of any Councilor meeting with anyone from Storrie Lake Water Users Association and Acequias individually.

Councilor Howell advised that he had been approached by some members.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń stated that she recalled that Council was advised on numerous occasions not to meet with any individual members when it came to litigation regarding water projects.

City Attorney Dave Romero advised the Governing Body that in matters concerning litigation; Council should not meet individually unless present with their attorney due to the formality of the negotiation of the law suit and is usually occurring in court, where all discussion should take place or with their attorneys.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that she was completed with her presentation of the Finance Report.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. Approval/Disapproval to enter into agreement with MainStreet de Las Vegas, A New Mexico non-profit corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016.



Community Development Director Lindsey Valdez advised that MainStreet de Las Vegas is a non-profit corporation, incorporated on September 28, 2005 whose purpose is to stimulate economic development by protecting and enhancing Las Vegas' historically and culturally significant downtown districts which consist of three districts listed on the National and Local Register of Historic Places: Railroad District, New Town/Douglas Avenue and Old Town /Plaza District.

MainStreet Executive Director Cindy Collins made a presentation on several accomplishments from last fiscal year and goals for the next year and informed that one of the big events was facilitating the purchase of the Castaneda Hotel, which took years to come to negotiation with the previous owner and negotiated a reduction in the purchase price. Ms. Collins added that with the help of the City of Las Vegas, MainStreet received a CLG grant of \$41,232.00 to complete the Castaneda and for renovation of the Rawlins Building.

MainStreet Executive Director Collins advised that the Castaneda led to the purchase of Plaza Hotel and the U7 Building and added that the Castaneda was a catalyst for more projects which consisted of the renovation of the Moonlight Welding Building, the expansion of JC's Pizza and the purchase of the California Store and the Arellanes Building.

Ms. Collins informed that Phase II of a Phase III project was completed for the E. Romero Hose and Fire Building and advised that Chief Phillip Mares was working on acquiring a grant to complete Phase III which pertained to second floor administrative offices for the Fire Department.

Ms. Collins advised that 15 more trees were planted, bringing the total to 80 trees on East Lincoln to Douglas Avenue and added that with the help of volunteers, 32 planter boxes were filled with flowers and are watered by the City of Las Vegas Public Works Department using effluent water which is important for beautification and pride in the city.

Ms. Collins briefly discussed several other organizations that MainStreet was in collaboration with, several upcoming projects and also advised that the Las Vegas Marketing Collaborative received a grant from New Mexico Tourism to market all the events and added that Bill Hendrickson is working hard on a grant for River Walk improvements.



Ms. Collins advised that she had attended a Chamber of Commerce Board meeting and decided they could work together on "Las Vegas as a College Town" and informed that the Arts & Cultural District would be moving to Las Vegas Arts Council.

Ms. Collins informed that MainStreet was very active in Heritage week and stated that Heritage week was approaching and would feature the Cowboy Reunion 100 Horse Parade. Ms. Collins added that they had been working for several years with EDC on a downtown movie theater and were collaborating with NMHU on the Way Finding Signage. Ms. Collins stated that they promote downtown businesses and projects on their face book page.

Ms. Collins presented the Goals for the next fiscal year (2015/2016) and informed that a Way Finding Signage was needed and advised that a State Capital Outlay Application would be submitted jointly with the City.

Ms. Collins informed that with the help of Bill Hendrickson with the EDC, a priority was to move forward with a movie theatre, utilizing the Kiva theatre and added that another upcoming project was the "Ultimate Facade Squad" regarding the Carnegie library repairs on the north, east and west facade. Ms. Collins advised that the city had previously worked on the south facade side.

Ms. Collins informed that the Meadow City Music Festival was coming up and advised that a grant was received from New Mexico Tourism to advertise the event and were working with Musicians Reunited to complete the breezeway and with the help of architect Jonathon Whitten to help honor 531 living and dead musicians, by setting name engraved cobblestones on the breezeway.

Ms. Collins reported that they are working with Las Vegas Community Development Department on a vacant building ordinance regarding the downtown area and added that Mainstreet's grants awarded total was \$981,532 and that the City's return on investment was 256%.

Ms. Collins advised that the Mainstreet Board of Directors & staff would be available for any questions regarding their contract and asked the Governing Body to consider the increase on the contract.



Councilor Herrera commended Cindy Collins and her staff for a job well done on the informative presentation on the success stories, visions and goals of MainStreet.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń wanted to congratulate Cindy Collins, members of MainStreet , Board of Directors and volunteers on continuing to produce to results and providing incredible work and advised that funding would depend on City Manager Martinez and Finance Director Gallegos to determine if funding was available considering the fact that MainStreet was result oriented.

Councilor Howell asked Ms.Collins if they saw any duplication of services that they are providing, with other organizations.

Ms. Collins stated that they saw no duplication and explained that Community Development Direct Lindsey Valdez was going over the scope of work with each group and advised that finding out that the EDC had access to the Buxton report would help with the movie theatre and added they wanted to help other organizations and felt that there was no duplication but more collaboration.

Councilor Howell thanked MainStreet for all their hard work and added that the main street district is looking good regarding beautification; many activities are taking place and added that MainStreet had progressive and active Board members.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. thanked MainStreet Executive Director Cindy Collins, Community Development Director Lindsey Valdez, MainStreet Board members and the community for their hard work and was amazed of the number of volunteers.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. advised that there were many things taking place in the City and added that the beautification of the city reminds everyone what a wonderful community we have and saw the future of MainStreet continue to move ahead. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. commended the MainsStreet Board and thanked them for working cooperatively with other organizations.



Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve to enter into agreement with MainStreet de Las Vegas, A New Mexico non-profit corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016. Councilor Gurule-Giroñ seconded the motion.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for clarification of the amount on the agreement being approved.

City Manager Martinez clarified that the amount on the agreement being approved was \$35,000.00 with office space and access to the Conference Room provided at the Las Vegas Train Depot by the City of Las Vegas with the rent value of \$5,000.00.

Cindy Collins stated that if the agreement was going to be considered at \$35,000.00, Mainstreet felt strongly about not taking on the Electric Light Parade which was one more task being given and would be interested in doing it but added that they had not been given an increase since 2012 and advised that MainStreet would accept the agreement without the Scope of Work pertaining to the Electric Light Parade.

Community Development Director Lindsey advised that currently the Electric Light Parade had been run by the City of Las Vegas and is facilitated by Events Planner Annette Velarde but informed that the goals of the department was to start transitioning the events back to community involvement and would give Events Planner Velarde more time to focus on marketing efforts that benefit economic development and added that she felt that with the assistance of MainStreet taking on the Electric Light Parade would be beneficial in that goal.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. made the recommendation to City Manager Martinez to approve the \$35,000.00 and excluding the Scope of Work regarding the Electric Light Parade and addressing the issue at a later time and stated that he felt it was important to treat all entities comparable.

Discussion took place pertaining to issues on the increase amount of \$5,000.00 on rent for office space and issues regarding the amendment on the additional scope of work on the Electric Light Parade.



Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve to enter into agreement with MainStreet de Las Vegas, A New Mexico non-profit corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016 with the removal of scope of work for the Electric Light Parade to be brought on a different business item at a later date, for funding of \$35,000.00 with the in-kind of \$5,000.00. Councilor Gurule-Giroń seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David L. Romero	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

City Manager Martinez stated that under the Finance presentation, the Housing report had been presented at a previous meeting.

2. Approval/Disapproval to enter into agreement with the Las Vegas/San Miguel Chamber of Commerce, a New Mexico non-profit corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016.

Las Vegas San Miguel Chamber of Commerce Chairman Travis Regensberg informed that the Chamber of Commerce had recently started restructuring and added that he was working closely with Vice Chairman Michael Adams. Mr. Regensberg stated that he had taken over the Chairmanship until December and advised his team would be making presentations on deliverables in conjunction with their contract.

Chamber of Commerce Treasurer Regina DeNardo-Sena reported that they were diligently working on the audit, which will be submitted to Steve Baca who was assisting with the audit and would be completed within the next few months.

Ms. DeNardo-Sena added that there would be transparency regarding the audit.

Ms. DeNardo-Sena stated that the Chamber of Commerce was moving in a positive and forward direction and advised that the community's money, regarding membership or any organizations that the Chamber collaborates with, would be safe.

Chamber of Commerce Vice Chairman Mike Adams informed the Governing Body that the Chamber of Commerce was working on the re-organization and since starting the re-organization, membership has grown 500%.

Mr. Adams thanked Community Development Director Lindsey Valdez and City Manager Elmer Martinez for their help, and Mayor Ortiz, Jr. for speaking well of the Chamber of Commerce and was excited for the Chamber to move forward, with the help of their great staff.

Mr. Adams advised that they were in collaboration with various entities such as EDC, Luna, Highlands University, Las Vegas 1<sup>st</sup>, MainStreet and other organizations and stated that they would keep working diligently on acquiring many more members in and outside the Las Vegas and San Miguel areas.

Chamber of Commerce Fiesta Liaison Celina Sierra reported that she would be keeping communication open between the City of Las Vegas Fiestas committee and the Chamber of Commerce Board by attending the meetings and determine what duties the Chamber of Commerce could possibly assist with, but notified that she was unable to attend meetings already started for the year 2016 therefore, would focus on the 2017 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fiestas. Ms. Sierra advised of the new Board of Directors and that everyone is working very well together to move forward.

Mr. Regensberg advised that Board Member Vince Chavez was not present; therefore Mike Adams would be explaining the App programs that Chamber of Commerce would be launching for 2015-2016.

Mr. Adams advised that Lindsey Valdez pursued the App program project with Highlands University which would support Highlands University, City of Las Vegas and Chamber of Commerce and explained that it was a phone download app with the capability to download events, business information and offered reward programs which would help local businesses. Mr. Adams advised that it would be available within 2 to 3 days and stated that the funding for the app came from Lodger's Tax and would also be supported by sponsors.



Mr. Adams reported that the Chamber of Commerce is working collaboratively with EDC and Luna Community College regarding the project of the Community Kitchen which benefits residents of San Miguel, Mora and Guadalupe counties. Mr. Adams added that it was a pleasure working with these entities which were moving forward and hoped that they were all supported in their efforts.

Mr. Regensberg reported on behalf of Board Member Mack Crow regarding the NMHU Welcome Back Barbeque events which will take part during the period of Homecoming which consisted of a Red Chile Cook- Off representing Robertson High School and a Green Chile Cook-Off to represent West Las Vegas High School and other cooking events with other organizations. Mr. Regensberg noted that clean-up events had recently taken place by the Chamber of Commerce and many volunteers, starting at the Plaza and ending at the Chamber of Commerce with a total of about 890 pounds of trash and added that his objective was to contact the Gatorade Company to help in the endeavor to end the pollution due to a majority of the trash, consisted of Gatorade bottles.

Chamber of Commerce Board Member Diane Ortiz and Staff Member Virginia Marrujo made a presentation of upcoming projects and informed that one of the Chamber's main goals was to work in collaboration with other organizations and to educate the community on services available. Ms. Ortiz informed that a partnership with PNM is in the works with funding opportunities, training and educational workshops such as:

- Low Income Assistance Events
- Senior Assistance Fairs
- Financial Workshops
- PNM Building Tune-Up
- Refrigerator Recycling Rebate

Chamber of Commerce Staff member Virginia Marrujo advised that the JCs had been working on a project regarding the Disney Institute and that it offers services to strengthen and improve businesses. Ms. Marrujo stated that the Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Luna Community College to host a Disney Institute offering opportunities to become alumni and gain access to information for business improvement, maintenance and overall structure.

Mr. Regensberg emphasized on the PNM partnership opportunities regarding energy conservation measures and that added that the Senior Citizens in our community need to be educated on energy efficiency losses and help them save money during winter months, money that will eventually be spent here in the community and at the same time, helps boost the economy.

Mr. Regensberg advised that he is working with the Veterans Alliance Group and advised that there are an estimated 6000 Veterans in our area and saving them money through education regarding benefits and awareness would hopefully keep the money in town and help boost the economy. Mr. Regensberg expressed how important it was to take care of our Senior Citizens and our Veterans by reaching out to help in any way possible and spoke of several efforts the Chamber of Commerce personnel and that the focus is to work diligently on promoting new business and make a difference in our community.

Community Development Director Lindsey Valdez advised that the Las Vegas/San Miguel Chamber of Commerce works collaboratively to support economic development, encourages and welcomes new business, and supports and promotes existing businesses.

Community Development Director Valdez advised that the Chamber of Commerce is currently in the process of reorganizing to expand their service to business owners, residents and visitors and added that the contract amount was for \$35,000.00 with the in-kind service amount of \$7,500.00 (office space, to include utilities and use of Train Depot conference room when available).

Councilor Herrera commended the members of the Chamber of Commerce for the excellent presentation and praised them for the outreach to our community regarding the resources available to them and that it would benefit those who were illiterate if information could get to them physically.

Mr. Regensberg advised that they recognize that many seniors and veterans have not made the connection with the cyber-world and information cannot be sent to them through e-mail and is important to create a liaison for the purpose of bridging that gap in communication.



Councilor Gurule-Giroń was pleased with the Board of Directors and their involvement in not only attending meetings but hosting events and commended the Chamber of Commerce and the entire staff.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had a question on the contract amendment regarding promoting the Las Vegas brand.

Mr. Regensberg addressed the question by stating that he had questioned the new brand but now embraced it, respected the decision of the Governing body and that the Chamber of Commerce would execute the deliverables asked for.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked if the contract was going to be retro-active.

Mr. Regensberg informed that it would be a retro-active contract.

Councilor Howell was pleased with the energy that Mr. Regensberg was bringing to the Chamber of Commerce, the focus on veterans and moving the Chamber forward.

Mr. Regensberg advised the different deliverables being put out is important for variety and to avoid animosity within the Chamber of Commerce and that the focus is to be pro-active.

Councilor Howell made a comment regarding the JCs and how he would like to see it flourish and noted that Ms. Marrujo showed to be passionate of their objectives and advised if that would happen that the community would relish that.

Councilor Howell asked Mr. Regensberg if he saw any project duplications with other organization.

Mr. Regensberg advised that he had not seen any duplication and added that Lindsey had been very helpful regarding duplication and identified that the app system, had previously been funded by the City but as one their collaborations in working with Highlands the Chamber of Commerce would be utilizing their app system as one of their deliverables and would benefit both the Chamber of Commerce and the City.



Community Development Director Valdez advised that the department had made the recommendation for Chamber of Commerce to reach out to Highlands to collaborate and ensure there was no duplication and advised that Mr. Chavez from Highlands was very excited to move forward with the help of Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. advised that he was very impressed with the presentation and enthused by all the hard working put in by many volunteers and taking on such a huge responsibility and thanked the members of the Chamber of Commerce for the presentation brought forth.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń made a motion to approve to enter into agreement with the Las Vegas/San Miguel Chamber of Commerce, a New Mexico non-profit corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$8,750.00 each quarter for the total of \$35,000.00 and the contractor may submit an invoice for \$8,750.00 for each quarter reported, and \$7,500.00 in in-kind services (office space, to include utilities, and use of Las Vegas Train Depot conference room when available). Councilor Gurule-Giroń wanted to inform that each payment is due 10 days after the invoice is submitted, due to timeliness issues in the past. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

3. Approval/Disapproval to enter into agreement with the Las Vegas/San Miguel Economic Development, Inc., a New Mexico non-profit corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016.

EDC Chairman Sharon Vandermeer took the opportunity to give praise to MainStreet, Chamber of Commerce and every volunteer who has been part of all the wonderful things that are going on in the community and advised that Mr. Hendrickson was very involved with these organizations.



Ms. Vandermeer asked the Governing Body to reconsider the \$50,000.00 funding requested for EDC and advised that Mr. Hendrickson would be presenting information regarding the Business HUB and thanked the EDC Board members for all their support.

EDC Executive Director Hendrickson spoke briefly on community support of the EDC by way of various companies that are vested in the EDC in the amount of \$23,400.00 in support of what they thought the EDC was doing for the community and advised that the state invested \$2,000.00 for kitchen training and operations for the manager and himself.

Mr. Hendrickson informed that the state also provided \$8,400.00 used for business recruitment, further training for himself which took place in Silver City and for local projects in area and also advised that a grant was received for \$15,000.00 to equip the Business HUB which was critical in the discussion to take place regarding why the EDC was asking for the increase in funding for a project that the city had asked to start.

Mr. Hendrickson advised that the EDC had previously had many problems in the past but is moving forward and advised that the EDC has a broader focus bringing economic base businesses that would bring in new money in to Las Vegas and San Miguel County.

Mr. Hendrickson spoke briefly on various other organizations that the EDC was working in collaboration with to help local communities and all will benefit from and help each other.

Mr. Hendrickson advised that three companies would be renting space at the Business HUB which would bring in income of \$10,800.00 a year.

Mr. Hendrickson advised that there were several other costs included to operate the Business HUB which consisted of Utilities, Janitorial Service, and full time Clerical position with the estimated cost of \$40,000.00, which after income and expenses would bring the loss amount to \$29,000.00 and added that the EDC is not funded to support the loss amount.

Mr. Hendrickson advised that there would be future maintenance start up costs in the amount of roughly \$18,000.00 and informed that the EDC received \$15,000.00 from the state to cover the \$18,000.00 costs, however the funding would have to be returned to the state if the Business HUB did not come to fruition and that was the reason for the \$15,000.00 increase request.

Councilor Herrera asked Community Development Director Valdez if there were any stipulations on last year's contract regarding the Business HUB.

Community Development Director Valdez advised that there were no cost stipulations on the contract and clarified that the start of the Business HUB was included in last year's contract.

Discussion took place regarding the different costs and operations involved of running the Business HUB.

Community Development Director Valdez briefly spoke of the benefits the Business HUB would bring to the community.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked members of Chamber of Commerce and MainStreet if they would have any objections of awarding a \$15,000.00 increase to the EDC.

Mr. Mike Adams with Chamber of Commerce and Ms. Cindy Collins with MainStreet both advised that they had no objections and thought that it would be a benefit.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. made a recommendation to the Governing Body to highly consider giving the EDC the \$35,000, \$7,500 in addition in lieu of in kind and an additional \$7,500, due to the investments and successes that the Business HUB would bring to the City of Las Vegas and advised that the \$15,000.00 the State had given EDC could be easily lost and felt strongly about matching that amount.

Community Development Director Valdez advised that she and City Manager Martinez were working closely with these organizations to make sure that the deliverables were feasible and to make it possible for them to fulfill their scope of work.



Mayor Ortiz, Jr. stated that this issue regarding the Business HUB should be addressed aggressively and thanked Chamber of Commerce and Mainstreet for their support in the contribution to the EDC.

Councilor Herrera made a suggestion to approve to enter into agreement with the Las Vegas/San Miguel Economic Development, Inc., a New Mexico non-profit corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015, thru June 30, 2016 for \$35,000.00 with the amendment recommendation of \$7,500.00 in lieu of in-kind and for City Manager to later look into the \$7,500.00 remaining.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had questions and concerns regarding the Economic Development Plan not being included in the Scope of Work and advised that the EDC could not work off the Master Plan therefore needed to update the plan.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked what the share of San Miguel County was regarding the Business HUB and it was her understanding that the County had handled and initiated the Business HUB for years through the EDC.

Ms. Vandermeer advised that to her knowledge there was no Business HUB that currently existed and that it was initiated through a contract by the City of Las Vegas last year and informed that EDC Board Member Les Montoya had never mentioned a Business HUB.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń stated that she believed there was an existing HUB and suggested that the EDC meet with San Miguel to ensure that there is an operating Business HUB.

Ms. Vandermeer stated that with all due respect to Councilor Gurule-Giroń, understood her concerns, and with great assurance, that there was not an existing Business HUB through the county and advised that the EDC has not participated in any other project relating to a Business HUB other than the present one with the City of Las Vegas.

Discussion took place on how realistic it would for the City of Las Vegas to operate a Business HUB if the Hewett Building at Highlands University was not available.

EDC Director Hendrickson advised that the Business HUB had already been approved by the New Mexico Highlands Board of Regents to proceed with the project.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had a concern regarding the Business HUB being bid out separately and stated that before being bid out she recommended involving the County before moving forward with the Business HUB.

Ms. Vandermeer advised that all these organizations have worked diligently in helping the community and added that the EDC has full support from the County and is in contact with the County due to Les Montoya sitting on the board representing the county.

Ms. Vandermeer advised that the money was being spent conservatively for the only purpose of economic development and asked the Governing Body to give these organizations the opportunity to serve the community with the needed funding for the Business HUB from the City, and advised that the EDC is working to get it done.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń advised that she wished they could fund every organization equitably but advised that the funding could not take place due to having to be fair to the other organizations to meet their needs regarding deliverables and advised before going forward with the Business HUB, there had to be collaboration with the County and would like to see their shares in the Business HUB project.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. advised that he agreed with Councilor Herrera's suggestion to approve the \$35,000.00, \$75,000.00 in lieu of in-kind and the remaining \$7,500.00 to be addressed at a later time and stated that his wishes were that the County would contribute to the project as it would be a benefit to them as well.

Councilor Herrera suggested that the City fund the EDC at the \$35,000.00, \$7,500.00 in lieu of in-kind and bring other expenses from the project on a different business item.

Councilor Howell made a motion to approve to enter into agreement with the Las Vegas/San Miguel Economic Development, Inc., a New Mexico non-profit



corporation, for the period of July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016 with the contract of #35,000.00 with \$7,500.00 in lieu of in-kind and to have the amendment looked at by City Manager Martinez on the remaining \$7,500.00 to support the Business HUB. Councilor Herrera seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David L. Romero	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

4. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution #15-32, supporting the New Mexico Department of Transportation Municipal Cooperative Agreement/COOP-SP-4-16(906) for the Plan Design, Construction Management, Construction, Reconstruction, Pavement Rehab, Drainage Improvements and Miscellaneous Construction to various entity Streets along South Pacific Street.

Public Works Director Martin Gonzales advised as part of the cooperative agreement submittal criteria for the NMDOT COOP, it is required that a Resolution of Support from the local Governing Body assuring matching funding availability accompany cooperative agreement. In complying with this criteria, staff is requesting Resolution 15-32 be approved. Budgetary provisions will be made in the Public Works budget during the 2015/16 fiscal cycle.

Public Works Director Gonzales advised that improvement plans for Moreno Street to Perez Street were initially to repair with crack seal but after consulting with the Engineer, he informed that if utilizing that plan, it would not provide proper drainage and advised that the scope of work needed to be changed and with that, there would more funding needed for the project.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked if the amount needed for the project was \$100,000.00.

Public Works Director Gonzales advised that \$100,000.00 was the total amount needed for the project.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ stated that Moreno Street has had many problems in the past regarding water leaks and breaks and added that issues have occurred regarding street tear ups between Utilities and Streets Departments and hoped there would be more collaboration between the two departments in order to maximize those dollars, avoiding having to go back to repair.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ asked what degree of asphalt would be used to avoid cracking or sinking on the street repair.

Public Works Director Gonzales informed that regarding Utilities, that there were no utilities in that project area and advised he met with Utilities Director Ken Garcia to discuss where the effluent line would be placed to feed South Pacific Park.

Public Works Director Gonzales advised that instead of coming down through South Pacific Street, it would go through West Las Vegas Calles de Las Escuelas Street and at the same time feed WLV Schools football and practice fields, coming up through the middle school and miss South Pacific Street and would go up through the alleyway to feed South Pacific Park.

Public Works Director Gonzales informed that WLV was wanting to add a practice field and would be irrigated with the effluent line which in turn would give Utilities Department some revenue with WLV financially helping with the install of the line in that section.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ had questions and concerns regarding issues with water drainage on the Moreno to Socorro Streets Project.

Public Works Director Gonzales advised that a patching and fog seal would be used from Moreno to Socorro and from Socorro to Perez Street, an inverted crown would be used, which would then direct water away from homes to the middle of the street and informed that the drop inlets would be utilized to direct water into the storage drainage. Public Works Director Gonzales clarified that the drop inlets were large and could handle large amounts of debris.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ asked if the same drainage plan would be used on Moreno Street.



Public Works Director Gonzales advised that they would be working with an Environmental Group in trying to get a grant to perform a rip-rap to control erosion in that the area of the bottom of Moreno Street.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. commented on the extensive project but advised that it would be a major improvement.

Councilor Howell made a motion to approve of Resolution #15-32, supporting the New Mexico Department of Transportation Municipal Cooperative Agreement/COOP-SP-4-16(906) for the Plan Design, Construction Management, Construction, Reconstruction, Pavement Rehab, Drainage Improvement and Miscellaneous Construction to various entity Streets along South Pacific Street. Councilor Gurule-Giroñ seconded the motion.

Resolution 15-23 was presented as follows:

**CITY OF LAS VEGAS  
RESOLUTION NO. 15-23**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING 1215 PECOS STREET WHICH IS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY JOSE BLANCO TO BE DANGEROUS, COVERED WITH RUINS, RUBBISH, WRECKAGE AND DEBRIS AND A NUISANCE REQUIRING ABATEMENT**

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3-18-5, NMSA, 1978, whenever any building or structure is ruined, or any premise is covered with ruins, rubbish wreckage or debris, the governing body of a municipality may by resolution find that the ruined, damaged and dilapidated building, structure or premises is a menace to the public comfort, health, peace or safety and require the removal from the municipality the building, structure, ruins, rubbish, wreckage or debris; and**

**WHEREAS, the Las Vegas City Council has received evidence from the Community Development Department/Code Enforcement as to the condition of a parcel of land described herein, which are owned, occupied or controlled by Jose Blanco, whose address is 1215 Pecos St., according to the records at the San Miguel County Assessor's Office and described in said records as "1500 Pablo Baca Subdivision Blk 21" (property code # 1-095-093-376-398-177**

**WHEREAS, the property is a public nuisance and the premises are a menace to the public comfort, health, peace or safety of the community and is in violation of City of Las Vegas Ordinance 301 Sections 6 Nuisance Declared; Littering (A); Unsanitary Premises (B);**



**Hazardous Premises (C); Accumulation of Solid Waste (D). Items stored on the premises and visible from the public right of way in violations of City ordinances include but are not limited to papers, fiberglass, tin, Lowes basket, wood pellets, boards, plastic wraps, particle board, weeds, dead branches, and a burnt trailer. Walls on the trailer are deteriorated, collapsing and is in danger of falling unto city streets and neighbors properties.**

**WHEREAS, the City has posted 2 Certified Red Tags on the Property in plain view of the side walk notifying of the violation on the property. Certified mail was also sent out twice to the property owners noted above. Later findings stated he was deceased.**

**WHEREAS, proper notices served upon certified mail and on the property included: a Red Tag Notice of Violation on April 17, 2015; a Notice of Pending Abatement on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015. In the face of these notices, the nuisances remain and continue to pose a hazard to health, welfare, and safety of the public. Both Red Tags allowed for 10 days to correct the violations noted above.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council, the governing body of the City of Las Vegas, New Mexico does hereby resolve:**

**A. That the above described parcel of land is a nuisance pursuant to Section 3-18-5, NMSA, 1978, is a menace to the public comfort, health, peace or safety and requires abatement as follows: All trailers, wreckage, rubbish and debris as described above and any other materials in violation of the Ordinance described above shall be removed from the property and properly disposed of.**

**B. The City shall serve a copy of this resolution on the owner, occupant or agent, including Jose Blanco, in charge of the premises as shown by the records of the County Assessors. If the owner occupant or agent in charge of the building, structure or premises cannot be served within the municipality, a copy of the resolution shall be posted on the building, structure or premises and a copy of the resolution shall be published one time.**

**C. Thereafter, and within ten (10) days after receipt of a copy of this resolution or of the posting and publishing of a copy of the resolution, the owner occupant or agent, in charge of the building, structure or premises shall commence removing the ruins, rubbish, wreckage and debris or file a written objection with the Municipal Clerk asking for a hearing before the governing body of the City of Las Vegas. .**

**D. That if a written objection is filed, the Governing Body shall follow the provisions as set forth of 3-18-5 D. NMSA 1978; fix a date for a hearing in its resolution and objection; consider all evidence for and against the removal resolution at the hearing; and determine if its resolution should be enforced or rescinded.**

**E. Any person aggrieved by the determination of the governing body may appeal to the district court by: giving notice of appeal to the governing body within 5 days after the**



determination made by the governing body; filing a petition in the district court within twenty days after the determination made by the governing body. The district court shall hear the matter de novo and enter judgment in accordance with its findings.

F. If the owner occupant or agent in charge of the building, structure or premises fails to commence removing the ruins, rubbish wreckage and debris as provided under NMSA 3-18-5 F, the municipality may remove ruins, rubbish wreckage and debris at the cost and expense of the owner. The reasonable cost of removal shall constitute a lien against the building, structure, ruins, rubbish wreckage and debris so removed and against the lots or parcels of land from which it was removed. The lien shall be foreclosed in the manner provided in sections 3-36-1 through 3-36-6 NMSA 1978.

F. The municipality may pay for the costs of removal of any condemned building, structure, wreckage, rubbish or debris by granting to the person removing such materials, the legal title to all salvageable materials in lieu of all other compensation.

H. Any person or firm removing any condemned building, structure, wreckage, rubbish or debris shall leave the premises from which the material has been removed in a clean, level and safe condition, suitable for further occupancy or construction and with all excavations filled.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2015**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Joey Herrera	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. requested a 5 minute recess at 12:45 p.m.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. reconvened meeting at 1:00 p.m.

5. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution 15-28 to adopt the final Budget Adjustment Request for submission to DFA Local Government Division, the City's oversight agency.

Finance Director Ann Marie Gallegos advised that the City of Las Vegas is in need of increasing or decreasing the FY 2015 budgeted revenues or expenditures, transfers in or transfers out within various funds.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that this was the final budget adjustment for the 2014-2015 budget and expenditure report and explained that there were a few adjustments on expenditures which included the sick leave contingency and retirees in the amount of \$19,123.00, and needed to increase the Health Council by \$979.00. Finance Director Gallegos advised there was a cash balance and paid out all the contracted services as well as phones and utilities.

Finance Director Gallegos informed that an increase of \$847.00 was needed regarding the Recreation Center Phase II for administration fees and debt service fees and advised that Waste Water was requesting an increase of \$16,647.00 for principle payments.

Finance Director Gallegos stated that a \$27,682.00 increase was being requested in the Low Rent Housing, due to higher utility costs in the Housing Division.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that Fund 450 regarding the 2012 Bonds needed to be expended by this year and that there was a cost of \$4,085.00 which was an additional equipment cost and was requesting an increase in the budget.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the total amount of the B.A.R. was \$65,278.00 in expenditures.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked what equipment was being referred to regarding the increase needed.

Finance Director Gallegos informed that it was regarding the upgrade on the city-wide Tyler system which was the purchase of two additional servers.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked if this would be the last dollar amount paid to Tyler to correct and ensure that the system would work adequately.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that I.T. Kenny Roybal was working on the system to be more efficient, WIFI availability and also advised that infrastructure was in process at the Police Department and stated that the 2012 Bond funds needed to be closed off therefore went ahead with and addressed the purchase of the servers.



Councilor Howell asked if this budget would cover on-line billing payments.

Finance Director Gallegos informed that the Finance Department was looking for a company that would not charge service fees to the customer and advised that a company would be coming in to make a presentation to Council and stated that Tyler would at some point be charging a fee but in the mean time, trying to keep it at a low fee.

Finance Director Gallegos added that the upgrade performed would allow credit card services.

Councilor Howell asked if the credit card services would be utilized this year.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the Finance Department would commit to provide the service within this year, hopefully within the next couple of months.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ made a motion to approve Resolution 15-28 to adopt the final Budget Adjustment Request for submission to DFA Local Government Division, the City's oversight agency. Councilor Howell seconded the motion.

Resolution 15-28 was presented as follows:

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
MUNICIPALITY OF CITY OF LAS VEGAS  
RESOLUTION 15-28  
FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUEST

**WHEREAS,** The Governing Body in and for the Municipality of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico has developed a final budget adjustment request for fiscal year 2014- 2015; and

**WHEREAS,** said budget adjustment request was developed on the basis of need and through cooperation with all user departments, elected officials and other department supervisors, please see attached schedule; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Las Vegas is in need of making final adjustments in the 2014- 2015 fiscal year budget;

**WHEREAS,** it is the majority opinion of this governing body that the final budget adjustment request is approved and meets the requirements as currently determined for fiscal year 2014- 2015;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Governing Body of the Municipality of the City of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico hereby approves the budget adjustment request herein above described and respectfully requests approval from the Local Governing Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

RESOLVED: In session that 29<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

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Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr. Mayor

ATTEST:

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Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

REVIEWED AND APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY ONLY:

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Dave Romero, City Attorney

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Joey Herrera	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

City Manager Elmer Martinez advised that the Finance Department had been without one MIS as well as the Police Department and thanked I.T. Kenny Roybal for his hard work which has come with many challenges, and stated that perhaps the on-line payment project would have been further along if not shorthanded but was satisfied with the progress that had been made.

6. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution 15-29 to adopt the Final 2014-2015 Quarterly Report for submission to DFA Local Government Division, the City's oversight agency.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the City of Las Vegas is required to submit the 2015 Final Quarterly Report no later than July 31, 2015.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that she was pleased to inform that the DFA Final Quarterly Report for 2014-2015 ended up with positive cash balances although they did have two funds on a reimbursement bases which were Senior Citizens Program and Fund 218 JAG Grant and advised that they had expecting those revenues, and stated that they had probably already been received for the end of the year.



Finance Director Gallegos advised that the total revenue received for this year was \$37,716,000.00 and expenditures to date through June 30<sup>th</sup> were \$36,887,000.00 and ended up with cash and investments of \$20,538,000.00 and advised that she was confident of the report being accurate, and added that bank reconciliations had been completed to submit to DFA, with the approval from Council.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had questions on cash investments and Enterprise Funds being verified, on the accuracy of the required reserves and asked questions regarding the Cemetery fund under the Enterprise Funds.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the cash investments and Enterprise Funds were both verified and that the required reserves were met and clarified that the City of Las Vegas does not maintain any cemeteries and added that it is listed on the report for Municipalities that do maintain cemeteries.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had concerns on the budget regarding the General Fund expenditure percentages for the Airport.

Finance Director Gallegos explained that the \$84,280.00 amount was an insurance cost for the Airport and assured that the overall budget was not over expended.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had a question on the total amount of interest on investments under Revenues.

Finance Director Gallegos informed that the breakdown on interest and investments for the year was \$7,835.00 and stated that she would inform Finance Department staff to break up the budget costs in the future.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń commented on a job well done on the budget by Finance Director Gallegos and her staff.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń made a motion to approve of Resolution 15-29 to adopt the Final 2014-2015 Quarterly Report for submission to DFA Local Government Division, the City's oversight agency. Councilor Howell seconded the motion.

Resolution 15-29 was presented as follows:

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
MUNICIPALITY OF CITY OF LAS VEGAS  
RESOLUTION #15-29

**WHEREAS**, The Governing Body in and for the Municipality of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico has developed a budget for fiscal year 2014-2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the final quarterly report has been reviewed and approved to ensure the accuracy of the beginning balances used on the FY 2014-2015 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, it is hereby certified that the contents in this report are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and that this report depicts all funds for fiscal year 2014-2015.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the governing body of the City of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico hereby approves the final quarterly report for FY 2014-2015 hereinafter described as Attachment and respectfully requests approval from the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

**Resolved:** In the Special Council Meeting this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr. Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

REVIEWED AND APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY ONLY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Romero, City Attorney

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroñ	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

7. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution 15-30 to adopt the Final 2015-2016 Budget for submission to DFA Local Government Division, the City's oversight agency.



Finance Director Ann Marie Gallegos advised that the City of Las Vegas is required to develop, approve and adopt a Final Budget for submission to DFA Local Government by July 31, 2015.

City Manager Elmer Martinez advised that Budget Hearings were started in April with Department Directors, preliminary budget was brought to Council in June and added that the preliminary was approved by the DFA.

City Manager Martinez informed that the General Fund projection revenue was \$11,164,000.00 with a slight decrease from 2015 due to planning for the hold harmless, expecting to be out \$85,000.00 and the decrease in GRT and stated that there was a significant drop in March 2015 which was stated before but advised that they would continue to monitor revenues as they move forward.

City Manager Martinez advised that the hold harmless issues were being addressed in the General Fund and that cash balances have been included in the Final Budget and added that as the budget was being prepared they recommended to Department Directors; a flat budget with no increases and only recommended increases for items necessary to meet public safety, streets or utility upgrades.

City Manager Martinez advised there would be no personnel changes other than the employee annual increment increase of \$.07 cents and advised that the Fire Department increases were approved at the last meeting.

City Manager Martinez stated that Fire Department increases were approved at the last Council Meeting and added that they are still in negotiations with AFSCME and the Police Department and will be brought to Council soon.

City Manager Martinez advised that the budget was met regarding the projected 3% increase in Health Insurance for all employees and informed that there was a slight increase in liability insurance however the deductible cost was higher.

City Manager Martinez stated that Workman's Compensation Insurance Modifier was improved and advised that in 2015 it was at 1.43% and in 2016 the modifier dropped to 1.28%, saving the City \$71,000.00 throughout all funds which resulted



in employees working safer and advised they continue to address issues proactively through safety committee and safety liaisons.

City Manager Martinez spoke on Priority Capital Projects which included roofing the Recreation Center, Bradner Dam and paving projects and advised that \$96,000.00 was received by the Legislature for the Recreation Center but are negotiating with the Engineer on design with the money that is available and advised that they continue to seek funds for the Recreation Center.

City Manager Martinez reminded that Bradner Dam had already been discussed and advised that Public Works Director Gonzales had new ideas for improving paving and informed that it would take \$225,000,000.00 to repave all the streets in Las Vegas.

City Manager Martinez reported that Waste Water Department would reflect a 3% increase as per the ordinance and there were several water projects and added that the ICIP would be brought to Council to prioritize the projects.

City Manager Martinez advised that Solid Waste reflected a 5% increase as per the ordinance and explained that they are planning facility upgrades and to provide water to the facility with the Airport line coming through, which is greatly needed to provide better service.

City Manager Martinez reported of the structure at Utilities Department and reminded that this last fiscal year, the Solid Waste Department was created as an independent department and that a re-organization would be taking place in the Utilities Department.

Finance Director Gallegos gave a brief overview on the Recap Sheet Summary regarding carry-overs and reported that the total for budgeted revenue was \$48,790,000.00 and the budgeted expenditure total was \$58,000,000.00 related to Capital Projects which were Bradner Dam (on-going), Landfill closer (on-going), Recreation Center as well as paving projects that were presented by Public Works Director Gonzales.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that pertaining to the \$58,000,000.00 amount; a required written explanation would be submitted to the DFA regarding the on-



going projects being carried over to the following year and reported that contract negotiations are still on-going and would be brought to Council for approval.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that they budgeted cash carry-overs and that Lodgers Tax had done very well and brought in a total of \$284,867.00 for the year 2014-15, and that projection was at \$250,000.00 for the year and stated that \$47,000.00 was carried over in Contracted Services due to Community Development Department's contracts with agencies would not come to fruition until October 2015.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that in the General Fund, the carry-over amount was \$700,000.00 in building projects and informed that money was set aside for the Recreation Center as well.

Finance Director Gallegos reported that the State Fire Protection Fund Grant was updated and that the cash carry-over amount was \$27,415.00 and added that the (Ambulance) Medical Grant was updated from \$8,886.00 to \$28,886.00 with the awarded amount of \$20,000.00 in their budget.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the Finance Department is already preparing for the 2016- 4th of July Fiestas and stated there was enough revenue to increase the expenditure budget by \$25,000.00.

Finance Director informed that Community Development did very well and advised the final reports for the 2015 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fiestas would not be available until September.

Finance Director Gallegos reported that the Street COOP Grant was updated for \$172,444.00 for the Gallinas River Walk and also updated was the \$50,000.00, that Public Works Director Gonzales had requested authorization on Resolution 15-32.

Finance Director Gallegos reported that on the 2000 Legislative Appropriation, included was \$96,000.00 for the Recreation Center and \$93,500.00 was included for the Senior Center Renovation.

City Manager Martinez advised that an amendment to the CDBG grant would be submitted to DFA regarding an increase due to the bid coming in at a higher amount and advised he would coordinate with Local Government and consulting with the architect to ensure that the notice to proceed would not go out to the contractor before amending the agreement with DFA.

City Manager Martinez added that \$425,000.00 was received for Senior Programs from Legislative Appropriation.

Finance Director Gallegos stated that the Capital Improvement Fund 220 was updated by \$225,000.00 and advised that the Museum Building was in dire need of updates.

Finance Director Gallegos reported that the Juvenile Justice Grant was also updated to \$59,830.00 and added that the Housing Funds were updated to \$226,512.00 for Low Rent Housing and updated \$40,000.00 for Utilities to make sure there was adequate funding for utilities.

Finance Director Gallegos asked for permission to include the E911 Grant in the Final Budget and informed that the Las Vegas Police Department serves as the principal answering point for Las Vegas, San Miguel County and State Police as well. Finance Director Gallegos advised that the grant went from \$302,200.00 and that the awarded total dollar amount was \$669,386.00.

Councilor Gurule-Giron had questions on the recap sheet regarding cash balance and investment totals.

Finance Director Gallegos explained that the cash balance totals were \$18,653,000.00 and the investment total was \$3,461,000.00 and informed that the Debt Service had reserves set aside and that the Debt Service Fund amount for the city, after payments of \$632,015.00 was a total \$14,000,557.00. Finance Director Gallegos advised that she recapped the debt payments for 2014-2015 which totaled \$2,429,000.00 and advised that for this year, it had dropped by \$2,115,000.00 which was due to a large bond payment of \$4,200,000.00 off of the water, therefore it brought the payment down significantly, and those reserves will go back to the water fund.



Councilor Gurule-Giroń indicated that the reserve amount would be roughly at \$6,000,000.00 and added that it was a low figure from past reserves of between \$10 and 13 million and had concerns regarding gas and water rates increases as well as when they would possibly decrease.

Utilities Director Ken Garcia advised that gas rates would have a slight increase in October and advised that the cost of gas would be a factor in the result of the increase.

Utilities Director Garcia added that the last year of water rate increases would be in August.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had a concern on how we would meet the budget regarding the decreased reserve amount.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that regarding General Funds and Utility Funds, Finance Department met with Department Directors pertaining to setting aside individual cash required funds and advised that \$425,000.00 was set aside for gas reserve fund and added that Bond funds would be used for Bradner Dam and for Bond Payments as well. Finance Director Gallegos advised that the number of 266 full time employees was funded however all positions were not full.

City Manager Martinez advised that they were being flexible with filling vacant employee positions and were working with the needs of the departments and stated that he asked directors to work within their budgets.

City Manager Martinez advised there were 22 vacancies throughout the City and that they were trying to be innovative with needs and sometimes having to increase positions and used the example of increasing Safety positions by one or two more and stated that was part of the reasoning of lower expenditures.

City Manager Martinez used the Police Department as an example of being innovative, by hiring more Officers instead of having to pay out overtime.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń commended City Manager Martinez, Finance Director Gallegos and Finance Department staff for their hard work on ensuring that

funding was not lost, regarding timeliness issues and their overall work on the budget.

Finance Director Gallegos thanked Councilor Gurule-Giroñ and advised that the Finance Department was working well with all the Departments in addressing issues of trying to get the funding in, prior to spending and avoiding having to go to General Fund to meet expenditures that have not been met.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ stated that it was important to ensure that the funding for those organizations, intended for certain programs, would go out on a consistent bases.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ made a motion to approve of Resolution 15-30 to adopt the Final 2015-2016 Budget for submission to DFA Local Government Division, the City's oversight agency and to include the E-911 Grant. Councilor Romero seconded the motion.

Resolution 15-30 was presented as follows:

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
MUNICIPALITY OF CITY OF LAS VEGAS  
RESOLUTION NO. #15-30  
2015--2016 FINAL BUDGET ADOPTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body in and for the Municipality of the City of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico has developed a Final Budget for fiscal year 2015-2016, and

**WHEREAS**, said budget was developed on the basis of need and through cooperation with all department users, department supervisors, City Administration and elected officials, and

**WHEREAS**, the official meeting for the review of said documents was duly advertised on July \_\_, 2015 in compliance with the State Open Meetings Act, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the majority opinion of this governing body that the Final Budget meets the requirements as currently determined for fiscal year 2015-2016.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body of the Municipality of the City of Las Vegas, State of New Mexico hereby adopts the budget hereinabove described and respectfully requests approval from the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

**RESOLVED:** In session this \_\_\_\_ day of July 29, 2015.



MUNICIPAL GOVERNING BODY  
LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALFONSO E. ORTIZ, JR, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CASANDRA FRESQUEZ, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVE ROMERO, CITY ATTORNEY

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Joey Herrera	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

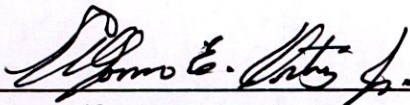
City Manager Martinez advised there was no need for Executive Session at this time.

**ADJOURN**

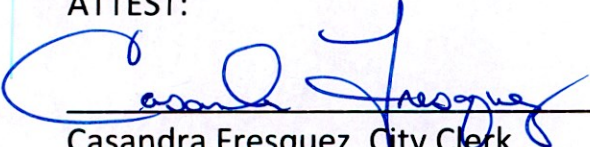
Councilor Gurule-Giron made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
Joey Herrera	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

Recorder Maire Lopez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk